

## OLD GEELONG FOOTBALL CLUB – NEWSLETTER, Q1 2010



### PRESIDENTS REPORT – Jimmy Legoe

Season 2009 provided the Old Geelong Football Club with many reasons to be optimistic for on-field success in 2010 and beyond. Undoubtedly, the highlight of the year was the premiership victory by our Under 19's side (OGs first ever premiership at this level of football). Coach **Tim Hope-Johnstone** and his players (led by Captain **Jack Merrin**) proved to be the benchmark of the competition all season (only losing two games) and gave the entire Club plenty of reason to celebrate in September. Whilst the other teams failed to partake in finals action, they will be hungrier to make a mends for it this season.



2009 began with us welcoming the challenge of moving up to C Section and with the quality appointment of **Nick Mitchell** as Senior coach. However, a couple of close defeats early, combined with some crucial injuries had the Seniors on the back foot. Through sheer determination and persistence, the playing group secured some vital wins during the middle part of the season, ensuring that our position in C Section remained for 2010. **Tom Lyons** must be congratulated for being the Club's Best and Fairest player for the second time in as many years, narrowly taking the honours from **Jamie Bell**.

The Reserves team also had a mixed season and narrowly finished out of the finals race in fifth position. Whilst there was plenty of depth on the OGs list, there was a notable increase in the standard of football that comes with climbing the grades. **Rich Ellis** was a clear winner in the Best and Fairest count with first year player **Ed Stevens** runner-up. Playing coach, **Mark Leslie**, must be applauded for his dedication to the team over the past couple of years, however study commitments will force him to turn his focus away from coaching duties in 2010.

The Club XVIII side enjoyed their most successful year in more than a decade and if it weren't a couple of narrow losses, finals would have been a distinct possibility. It was great to see plenty of past stars of the OGs (including **Nick Casbault**, **Al Munro**, **Nick Sanders**, **Lachie Stevens**, **Archie Paton**, **Nick Bayne**, **Will** and **Jimi Paul**) come out of retirement to partake in a handful of games for the newly named "White Knights". We look forward to a few more retirees coming out of the woodwork to pull the boots back on in 2010. Congratulations to **Sandy Machin** whom dominated in the eight games he played to secure the sides Best and Fairest for the year.

And then there were the PREMIERS.....as previously mentioned, our Under 19 side were victorious over Therry Penola by 36 points in their division Grand Final. Despite a tie-up with University Blacks early in the year, the continued success throughout the season brought the playing group together and we soon became a stand-alone side. In an encouraging sign for the future of the Club, no less than five premiership players took the field with the Seniors at stages of the season. Two of these players, **Cal Wood** and **John Forster** were voted the Under 19 Best and Fairest and Runner-Up respectively, whilst **Rob Officer** managed to kick 49 goals (narrowly missing out on being the divisions leading goalkicker). The Under 19's remain the future of this football Club and we must continue all of the good work that has been put into resurrecting the side over the past two years.

It would be remiss of me not to mention the committee members whom volunteer enormous amounts of their time to making the Old Geelong Football Club what it is. I must admit that I was surprised by the amount of work undertaken behind the scenes, but knowing that we had the right people involved provided me with a great level of comfort. It was a seamless transition into the presidential role for myself, largely thanks to the efforts of **Mark Avery** in recent years. His continued support, alongside fellow vice-president **Mark Vickers-Willis** was highly valued and respected and for their guidance I am much appreciative.

I would also like to acknowledge the many volunteers that assisted the OGs on and off the field throughout the year. It is impossible to operate a football Club without these people and for mine they do not get the recognition they deserve. Thanks must also be given to our Club and Player Sponsors, our Pivot Club and Social Members and other anonymous donors. It costs a lot of money to run a football Club and without this financial support our Club would almost certainly cease to exist. To ease the financial burden felt by some individuals, we must harness additional support from the wider Old Geelong community in 2010 – **so do your part and become a member by completing the enclosed subscription form!**

In summary, 2009 was a great learning experience for myself, and I am fully aware there are many areas of this football Club that need improving. Having said this, there is no doubt that we are heading in the right direction and we must maintain this momentum. Bring on the 2010 season and our quest to further climb the grades.

## COACH'S REPORT – Nick Mitchell

Season 2009, my first as senior coach at Old Geelong, was certainly an interesting one. A very slow start, some good performances through the middle, only to tail off at the end of the season. However, from my point of view the season was a huge success as we managed to show enough fortitude to fight our way out of a hole and remain in C Section for 2010. This is something our 2008 nemesis and many other Clubs in the amateurs that came up a grade failed to do.

In 2010 however, we will be defined as a Club. A strong showing and the rumblings will be heard in the premier division, a season like the last and they will line up to tell us we told you so. As a Club, in 2010 we need to embrace the rich history of this football Club, tap into and nurture the reservoir of talent at feeder level and grow with our ever expanding network. Everyone involved with the Club, in particular the 2010 player group, needs to believe in the path we are navigating, believe we belong in the upper echelon of this great competition. More than any other competition in Victoria, success at this level is driven by hard work, team unity and a belief in each other. You can't buy a premiership in the amateurs, you have to earn it, making the journey and the reward that much sweeter.

To this end 2010 has started with a bang on the park. After a solid 6 weeks prior to Christmas, the first week of training in January saw huge numbers on the track, with some familiar faces but more importantly a strong group of fresh faces. I have no doubt that the resolve within the group has strengthened from the experiences of last year and the hard work already being shown is setting us up for a big year. We welcome all the support we can get from our loyal band of followers during this testing phase of our preparation and look forward to revealing your 2010 OGs for Round 1 at Como on April 17 versus old foe Fitzroy.

## 2009 ON-FIELD WRAP-UP

| OG's Team | Wins | Losses | Position | Players Used |
|-----------|------|--------|----------|--------------|
| Seniors   | 5    | 13     | 8th      | 50           |
| Reserves  | 8    | 10     | 5th      | 58           |
| Club 18   | 6    | 9      | 7th      | 91           |
| Under 19  | 15   | 2      | 1st      | 47           |

## 2009 AWARD WINNERS

The presentation evening was successfully held on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September, whereby the following players were recognized for their efforts in 2009:

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| <b>Seniors Best &amp; Fairest</b>        | Tom Lyons         |
| <b>Seniors R/U Best &amp; Fairest</b>    | Jamie Bell        |
| <b>Leading Goal Kicker (Seniors)</b>     | Matt Goldsworthy  |
| <b>Most Consistent (Seniors)</b>         | Charlie Fairbairn |
| <b>Most Improved</b>                     | Gus Perry         |
| <b>Reserves Best &amp; Fairest</b>       | Rich Ellis        |
| <b>Reserves R/U Best &amp; Fairest</b>   | Eddie Stevens     |
| <b>Under 19 Best &amp; Fairest</b>       | Cal Wood          |
| <b>Under 19 R/U Best &amp; Fairest</b>   | John Forster      |
| <b>Leading Goal Kicker (Under 19)</b>    | Rob Officer       |
| <b>Club XVIII Best &amp; Fairest</b>     | Sandy Machin      |
| <b>Club XVIII R/U Best &amp; Fairest</b> | Chris Dellavedova |

### James Head Award (Best 1<sup>st</sup> Year Player)

Sam Middleton

### Peter Lemon Award (Best Clubman)

Alex Southey

### 100 Game Players & Life Membership

Jamie Bell, Lachie Teague & Henry Edgar

## UNDER 19 PREMIERSHIP

**Old Geelong** 15.9 (99) *defeated*  
**Therry Penola** 6.9 (63)

**Best** – C.Wood, S.Kent, D.Andrew, N.O'Hare, J.Foster, S.Niewand

**Goals** – C.Wood (5), S.Niewand (3), A.Price (2), W.Dungey, M.Moffatt, B.Skelton, R.Officer, D.Andrew



Those directly involved in the premiership victory have been listed below:

|                       |                      |                      |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Dave Andrew</b>    | <b>Dec Barlow</b>    | <b>Will Bleakley</b> | <b>Will Dungey</b>   |
| <b>Tom Emmett</b>     | <b>John Forbes</b>   | <b>John Forster</b>  | <b>Julian Foster</b> |
| <b>Jack Hughes</b>    | <b>James Holt</b>    | <b>Stacey Kent</b>   | <b>David Krones</b>  |
| <b>Angus McDonald</b> | <b>Jack Merrin</b> © | <b>Max Moffatt</b>   | <b>Scott Niewand</b> |
| <b>Nick O'Hare</b>    | <b>Will Quayle</b>   | <b>Rob Officer</b>   | <b>Al Price</b>      |
| <b>Pat St.John</b>    | <b>Ben Skelton</b>   | <b>Sam Studd</b>     | <b>Callum Wood</b>   |

**Coach:** Tim Hope-Johnstone

**Runner:** Nick Betts

**Water:** Alex Southey

**Physio:** Alex Petersen

Hamish McInnes

## 2010 FIXTURE

| RD | Date             | Opponent                        | H / A |
|----|------------------|---------------------------------|-------|
| 1  | Saturday, Apr 17 | Fitzroy                         | Home  |
| 2  | Saturday, Apr 24 | Mazenod                         | Away  |
| 3  | Saturday, May 01 | Ajax                            | Home  |
| 4  | Saturday, May 08 | Ormond                          | Away  |
| 5  | Saturday, May 15 | Old Camberwell                  | Home  |
| 6  | Saturday, May 22 | Caulfield Grammarians           | Home  |
| 7  | Saturday, May 29 | Parkdale Vultures               | Away  |
| 8  | Saturday, Jun 05 | Rupertswood                     | Home  |
| 9  | Saturday, Jun 19 | Beaumaris                       | Away  |
| 10 | Saturday, Jun 26 | Ajax                            | Away  |
| 11 | Saturday, Jul 03 | Ormond                          | Home  |
| 12 | Saturday, Jul 10 | Old Camberwell                  | Away  |
| 13 | Saturday, Jul 17 | Parkdale Vultures               | Home  |
| 14 | Saturday, Jul 24 | Fitzroy                         | Away  |
| 15 | Saturday, Jul 31 | Caulfield Grammarians           | Away  |
| 16 | Saturday, Aug 07 | Mazenod                         | Home  |
| 17 | Saturday, Aug 14 | Rupertswood                     | Away  |
| 18 | Saturday, Aug 21 | Beaumaris                       | Home  |
| QF | Saturday, Aug 28 | Elimination & Qualifying Finals |       |
| PF | Saturday, Sep 4  | Preliminary Finals              |       |
| GF | Saturday, Sep 11 | C-Grade Grand Final             |       |

## PIVOT CLUB SUMMARY

2009 was a great year for the Pivot Club with just over 100 people attending the first luncheon held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May, when we played Melbourne High, and just of 80 attending the second lunch on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July when we played Beaumaris. As always thanks to all those who made the effort to get along and show your support, we look forward to seeing you all again in 2010 and also a lot of less familiar faces returning to the pivot lunches.

Special thanks to our speakers for the year, **John Harms** and **Anthony Ingerson** (with a cameo from **Simon Martin**). No doubt 2010 will continue to bring some quality entertainers to the Oggery table. Particular mention must be made of **Frank and Rich Herd** (Herd Meats) and **Hamish McGowan** (Angus the Bull wine) for their amazing support during 2009 with generous donations of steak and wine. Thanks also to **Ruth Vickers-Willis** and her team at **Occasional Foods** for their catering efforts. And finally, the Club is again thankful to **Lachie Stevens** for his tiresome work as co-ordinator of the Pivot Club.



Congratulations to **David Ross-Edwards**, **Will Richardson** and **Will Fairbairn** for cleaning up the Calcutta. In 2010 we will have a few minor changes, but we also aiming to lift our membership as we target 100 members. Over the last 5 years there have been 150 different people sign up, but many don't quite get round to doing it year in year, so with the help of **Bruce Harwood** you can expect a phone call from one of us to ask you to join up once again.

It is a great opportunity for the old players and associates to catch up, and this great amateur Club lives off your ongoing support. Just remember that to watch a game of country, suburban, VFL or AFL footy you have to fork out \$15-25 of your hard earned, to watch the mighty Oggery you get the privilege of Como surrounds and high quality football played in the hoops for nicks. Then we get to wash it all down with some refreshments at the low cost **Nugget Bar**. Must be too good to be true!

For the ladies, watch out for a new initiative in 2010 as we launch the "Pink Pivot Club". Dates for this years Pivot Club Luncheons are as follows:

|                      |                            |                                 |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Ladies Lunch</b>  | <b>Saturday May 22nd</b>   | (Rd 6 vs Caulfield Grammarians) |
| <b>Pivot Lunch 1</b> | <b>Saturday June 5th</b>   | (Rd 8 vs Rupertswood)           |
| <b>Pivot Lunch 2</b> | <b>Saturday August 7th</b> | (Rd 16 vs Mazeond)              |

For those who want to get a jump on bookings and memberships, please contact **Lachie Stevens** via email ([lachie@lachstocktrading.com](mailto:lachie@lachstocktrading.com)) or phone (0419 305 519). Look forward to seeing you at Como Park sometime soon.

**PIVOT CLUB SUBSCRIPTION FORM ENCLOSED WITH NEWSLETTER**

## NETBALL

The Oggettes managed to field six Netball teams in 2009 and whilst some of the teams participated in finals, a premiership victory escaped them. Award winners for each team were as follows:

|                                      |                       |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>OGs Navy Best &amp; Fairest</b>   | Ginnie Hope-Johnstone |
| <b>OGs White Best &amp; Fairest</b>  | Bella Anderson        |
| <b>OGs Orange Best &amp; Fairest</b> | Amelia Gilmore        |
| <b>OGs Red Best &amp; Fairest</b>    | Anna Hawkins          |
| <b>OGs Green Best &amp; Fairest</b>  | Emily Nam             |
| <b>OGs Blue Best &amp; Fairest</b>   | Nat Wates             |

**Netball Clubwoman of the Year** Gen Milesi



In addition to the regular participation in the Prahran competition, the OGs took it upon themselves (with great assistance from **Gen Milesi**) to create a social competition with sides of recent school leavers from **Geelong Grammar School**, **Geelong College** and other APS schools competing against each other. This was a great success with all sides thoroughly enjoying themselves and a premiership coming **GGs's** way!

2010 promises to be another great year for the netballers and we are always seeking new players that are keen to get involved. Anyone that fits this category can contact our Netball President (**Annie Legoe**) on 0438 809 689 or via email at [annielegs85@hotmail.com](mailto:annielegs85@hotmail.com). The season will kick off in early March.

## CRICKET

The 2009/10 cricket season saw the birth of the Old Geelong Cricket Club, which fielded a team in the MCC Club XI competition, which is made up of predominantly ex-APS schools. Home games have been played on the Geelong Grammar Main Oval and at Fawcner Park. It is the aim of the Club to give as many Old Boys of **Geelong Grammar School** and **Geelong College** the opportunity to play cricket and to grow the Club so that more teams can be fielded in future years.

After an early win against Old Brighton the Club had a mini form slump, but thanks to some outstanding performances in recent weeks we are a chance to play finals if they can record a few more wins.

Congratulations to **Tim Bayles** who became the Clubs first centurion (101 against the MCC) and also leads the Club with the most runs and wickets. Other performances worth mentioning are **Ed Bayles'** 55 and 3 wicket haul (also against the MCC), and **Rob Hunter** whom has been a consistent performer with both bat and ball including a 50 against Old Hailebury.

If you are interested in playing cricket for the Old Geelong Cricket Club contact the President, **Roly Imhoff** at [roly@gphotoandweb.com.au](mailto:roly@gphotoandweb.com.au) or on 0419 003 264.



## PREMIERSHIP REUNION – 1990 & 2005

This year the Club will formally be celebrating and remembering the dual premiership successes in each of **1990** and of **2005**. This reunion will take place on the **weekend of May 1st** (so please keep this date free), but details are yet to be finalized.



**Bruce "Boofa" Harwood** (furthest right, above) has put his hand up to assist with bringing together those who shared in the glory 20 years ago, whilst **Lachie Stevens** and **Jim Legoe** are reuniting the more recent premiers (some of whom are still playing in the blue and white hoops).

We still seem to be missing contact details for the following: **Alan Quaife, Cullen Gunn, Dougal Morrison, Charles Ross, Alastair Gray** and **Craig Hollis**.

If anyone can assist with providing any contact details for the above (namely email or phone), please contact **Jimmy Legoe** on 0404 019 338 or via email at [jimlegoe@gmail.com](mailto:jimlegoe@gmail.com).

## PAST PLAYER NOTES

2009 saw the inaugural set of "Past Player Notes" produced by **Peter Lemon**. The reading base of these updates has grown considerably over the year with an Edition generally being published every six months. Pete's latest edition (number 10) can be found on the Club website (look under tab titled "The Club" and choose "Past Player News"):

[www.oldgeelong.com.au](http://www.oldgeelong.com.au)

Thanks to **Pete Lemon** for many photos contained within this OGs Newsletter.

## SCHOOLS SUMMARY

A focus of the committee in recent years has been to strengthen the ties that the Old Geelong Football Club has with our two feeder schools - namely, **Geelong Grammar** and **Geelong College**. Over the past 12 months, we have held information sessions at both schools whereby current students could ask questions about the football Club and were invited to train with us over the pre-season. We see this as a vital component of the future of the Oggery, with the attraction for school leavers being the ability to continue their sporting involvement with a connected organisation. This has been a major weakness of our Club in years gone by, with many leavers deciding to play at competing VAFA Clubs.

In an attempt to learn why we weren't getting these school leavers to the OGs, we held a workshop with 35 past students of the feeder schools whom pursued their football away from the OGs once completing their VCE. The feedback was extremely positive and we have no doubt that we can use this to our advantage to provide a great environment, both on and off the field, to attract more school leavers. In addition to this, we continue to raise the awareness of our Club amongst the alumni's of both GGS and GC via regular updates in the respective quarterly publications (eg. The Light Blue and Ad Astra). We look forward to the further strengthening of this relationship.

## JOBS LIAISON

For years the dominant teams in the VAFA have used their "Old School Network" to assist in the recruiting of players from within and outside their school, and to assist their players in gaining suitable employment. There is no doubt that the range of business connections in the Old Geelong Grammarians and Old Geelong Collegians network is as wide and varied as any other old boys network. To date however, it has not been utilised to the detriment of the Football Club, as well as the business network of the leavers of both schools who may require suitable candidates to fill roles within their businesses.

This year, the football Club is greatly interested in hearing from any person who is willing to assist the Old Geelong Football Club in its pursuit of football success and who sees benefit of having a talent pool of potential employees which comes at no expense. All opportunities are useful to us and could range from part time or holiday work (skilled of unskilled) to full time positions in all any professional field.

If you are capable of adding your firm / name to the business network we are trying to establish to make Old Geelong a more sustainable and successful Club, we would greatly appreciate hearing from you. Please contact Mark Avery on 0408 127 037 or [mark.avery@live.com.au](mailto:mark.avery@live.com.au).

## SPONSORS

As always, we would like to formally acknowledge and thank our corporate sponsors whom supported the Old Geelong Football Club in 2009 (and in many instances have done so for a number of years):

| <b>Principal Sponsors</b>       |                      |  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| <b>Bennison Mackinnon</b>       | Real Estate          | <a href="http://www.benmac.com.au">www.benmac.com.au</a>                 |
| <b>Ingrams &amp; Co</b>         | Accountants          | <a href="mailto:ingrams@netspace.net.au">ingrams@netspace.net.au</a>     |
| <b>Major Sponsor - Football</b> |                      |  |
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| <b>Windsor Community Bank</b>   | Banking              | <a href="http://www.bendigobank.com.au">www.bendigobank.com.au</a>       |
| <b>Galframe</b>                 | Building Frames      | <a href="http://www.galframe.com.au">www.galframe.com.au</a>             |
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| <b>Emma &amp; Toms</b>          | Fruit Juice          | <a href="http://www.emmaandtoms.com.au">www.emmaandtoms.com.au</a>       |

We are continually in search of new sponsors, so if you are interested please contact **Mark Vickers-Willis** on 0422 980 200 or [mvickerswillis@gmail.com](mailto:mvickerswillis@gmail.com).

## CONFIRM CONTACT DETAILS

Over the past year we worked really hard to update our Club database. However, many contact details still appear to be out of date, so if you have changed your details recently please email [jimlegoe@gmail.com](mailto:jimlegoe@gmail.com) with your current email address, postal address and phone number.